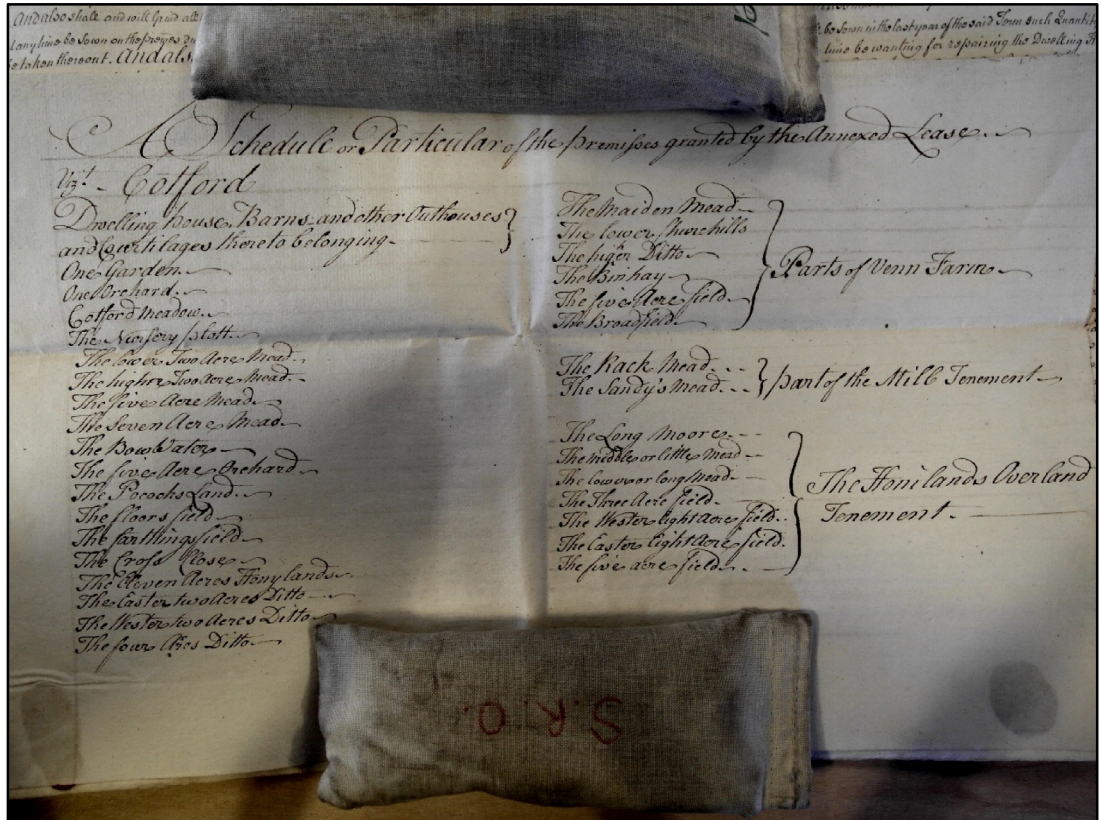


Land at Cotford St Luke, Bishop's Lydeard, Somerset

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



On behalf of

NHS Property Services Limited

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Avon Archaeology Limited

Bristol: October 2016



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ABSTRACT

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by NHS Property Services Limited to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Cotford St Luke, Bishop's Lydeard, Somerset. This work is related to a proposal to obtain outline planning consent for a development of 12-15 residential dwellings on the site, so that this is currently at the pre-app stage, and at the time of writing there is no formal planning application.

The site is centred on NGR ST 17109 26971, is an irregular trapezoid in shape, and encompasses an area of around 1.7ha. It lies immediately to the south of the settlement of Cotford St Luke, which is of entirely modern origin. At the end of the 19th century, Cotford became the location for a very large hospital for patients with mental illnesses, which was opened in 1897, and finally closed in 1995. It was latterly known as Tone Vale Hospital. Surviving elements of the structure are now Grade II Listed. The settlement which now surrounds the former hospital site is almost entirely of post Second World War date, and indeed the overwhelming majority of the present houses were not constructed until after the closure of the hospital. Other than the hospital buildings, there are no listed structures anywhere near the site, and neither are there any scheduled ancient monuments either on the site itself, or anywhere in the vicinity.

The site is currently for the most part under a somewhat scrubby waste, with some woodland, and is entirely undeveloped. Historically, it lay close to the southern boundary of the large parish of Bishop's Lydeard, in the Somerset hundred of Kingsbury. An estate at Bishop's Lydeard had come into the hands of the See of Wells in the early 10th century, and the charter that records the transfer has a boundary clause showing that the place-name Cotford dates from at least that time. It is likely that there was either a farm or a small hamlet in existence there well before the Norman Conquest. The site includes, close to its northern boundary, the site of Cotford Farm, which appears in the documentary record from at least the early 18th century, but it is highly likely that it stands on a far earlier site. The farm, which was demolished and removed during the establishment of the mental hospital, had a water mill driven from a leat running off the Halse Water stream. It is because of the presence of the farm site that an area around it has been formally designated as a site of High Archaeological Potential, and roughly a quarter of this area intrudes into the north-west boundary of the development site. Other than this, the local authority HER gives very few indications of known archaeological sites of any significance within a radius of 500m from it; although it should also be noted that just under 1.4km to the north of the site, around Dene's Cross, archaeological investigations for road widening have revealed the potentially extensive, and regionally important survival of field systems and settlement of late Iron/Age to Romano-British date. In addition, the boundary of the Bishop's Lydeard charter contains at least one reference to what may be a Bronze Age barrow, although the location is some distance from the site itself.

In summary, we consider it very likely that when the available evidence, whether archaeological, historical, topographical, or toponymic, is taken together as a coherent



body of data, it is likely to form a material consideration in the local authority's deliberations relating to the archaeological implications of the proposed development.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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NOTES

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ABBREVIATIONS

AAL	Avon Archaeology Ltd
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monuments Record (Swindon)



OS Ordnance Survey
SRO Somerset Record Office
SRS Somerset Record Society



1 INTRODUCTION

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by NHS Property Services Limited to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of a site occupying in total about 1.7ha of land immediately to the south of the modern village of Cotford St Luke, Bishop's Lydeard, Somerset. The site is of irregular trapezoidal shape, is currently undeveloped, and for the most part is overgrown with rank scrub. A small area of woodland occupies part of the north-eastern sector of the site. Only a small area on the north-western side is completely open, and is currently part of the large recreational and amenity space which extends to the west and north, bounded to the west by Cotford St Luke Primary School, and to the north by the line of Dene Road. At its longest, the site measures 220m from its extreme south-eastern corner to its northern apex, and maximum width is 115m from east to west. It is centred on NGR ST 17109 26971, and bounded on the north and east by Dene Road, and on the south by a small, local stream known historically as the Halse Brook, which flows from west to east. This eventually joins the far larger Norton Brook at Norton Fitzwarren, to the south-east, although it has clearly been heavily canalised from its original course. There is no physical boundary marking the western side of the site; it is at present a notional boundary only, drawn through an open paddock (**Figures 1 and 2**). There is currently no formal planning application lodged with the local planning authority, which is Taunton Deane Borough Council. Rather, outline consent only is being sought at this stage, for permission to erect 12-15 residential dwellings on the site. There has been no previous archaeological work or investigations, of whatever nature, within the site boundary. There are no Scheduled Monuments, or listed buildings on the site. The nearest SAM is represented by the remains of a medieval carved stone cross in the yard of the church of St John the Baptist at Heathfield, about 1.16km to the south-west of the site; and the closest Listed Building (Grade II) is the surviving chapel of St Luke, originally constructed as an integral part of the late 19th century mental hospital, latterly the Tone Vale Hospital. It lies about 370m to the north-west of the site's northern boundary.

2 METHODOLOGY

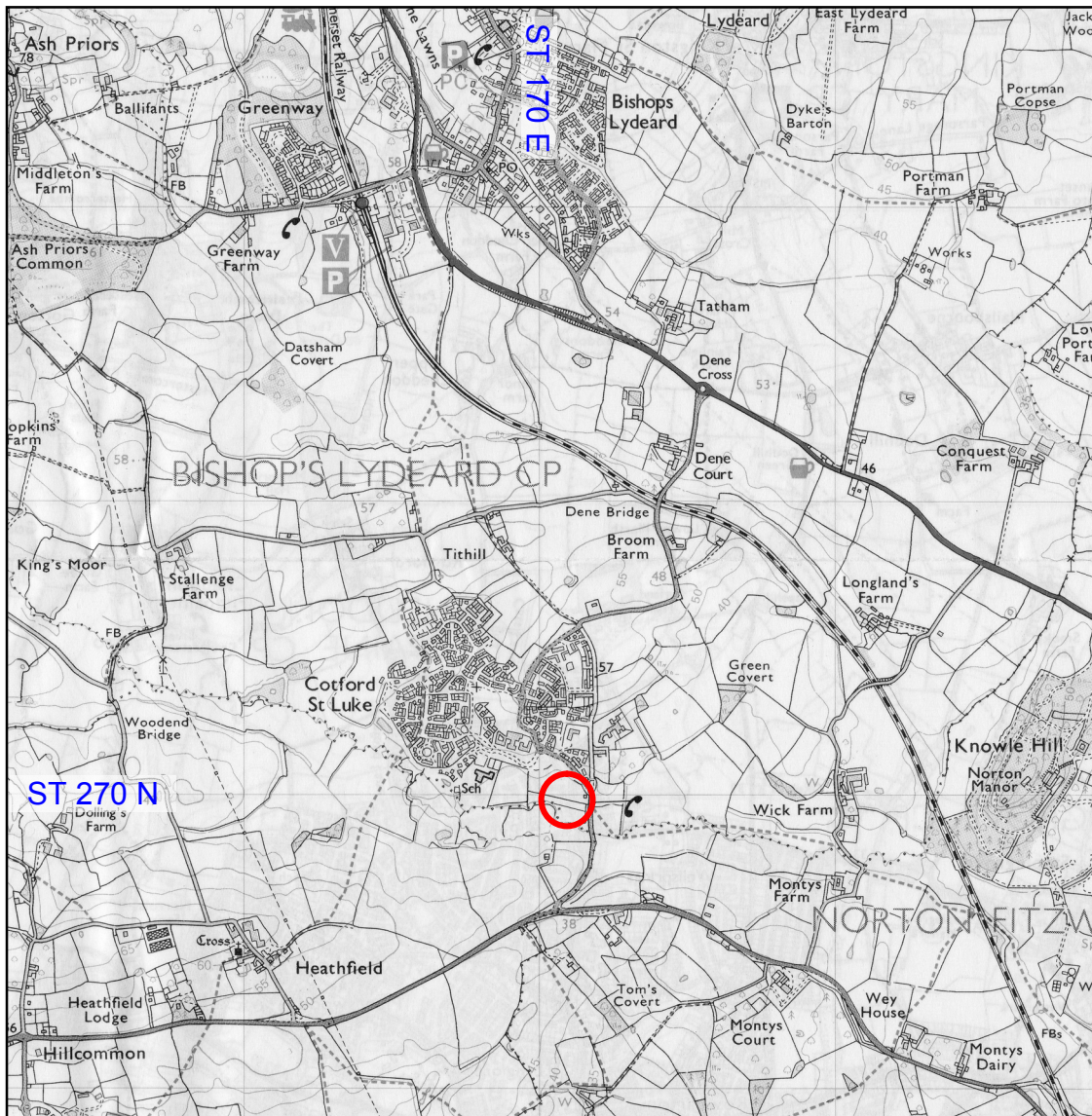
Searches were made of the indices of the collections of the Somerset Record Office, and the University of Bristol Arts and Humanities Library. A variety of online bibliographic resources, most notably COPAC, BIAB, the Archaeology Data Service, and Google Scholar, were used to identify potentially useful

Figure 1

Location of the Study Area

The Study Area 

Plans and maps based on the Ordnance Survey Sheets are represented by the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.



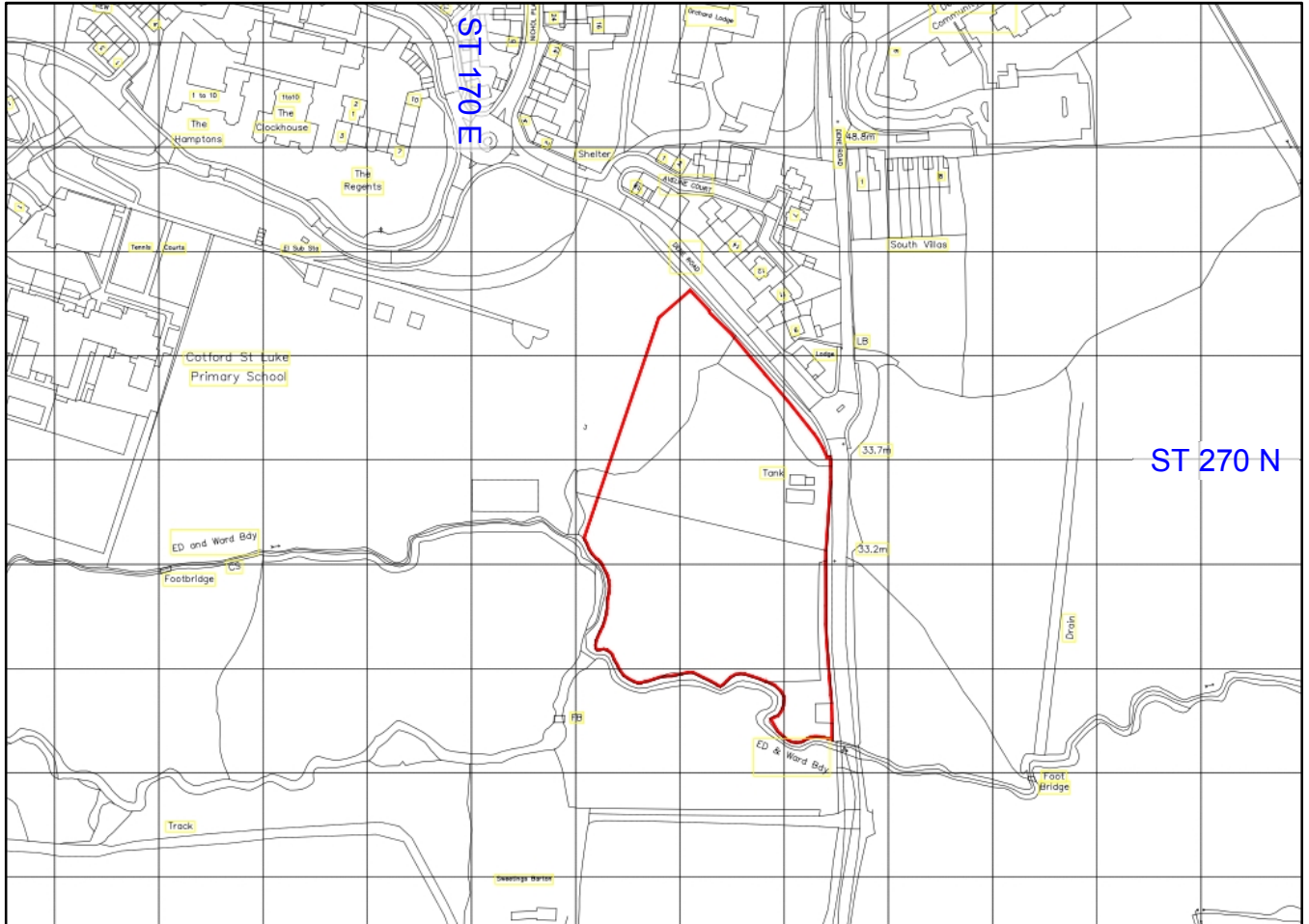
Scale: 1:25,000

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Figure 2

Boundary of the Study Area



Grid lines at 50m intervals



sources of information, whether published or otherwise¹. A visit was made to the National Monuments Record at Swindon to examine historic aerial photographs, one of which is reproduced here as **Figure 9**.

In addition, a trawl of the local authority's online HER was carried out, and the most salient results of that search have been incorporated in this report. A visit to the site was made by the author on Thursday, 13th October, 2016, and a digital photographic record was made, of which **Plates 1 to 5**, form a part.

3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The main part of the site is to all intents and purposes level, but not surprisingly there is a gentle downwards gradient from north to south, towards the little Halse Brook which marks its southern boundary. aOD values recorded as spot heights for a short distance in Dene Road, along the site's eastern boundary, suggest that there, they centre around 33-34m. On the site itself, the value at the extreme northern corner centres around 42m aOD, while very close to the extreme south-eastern corner, an OS benchmark on the former bridge over the Halse Water, now removed, had a value of 34m aOD. This is a drop of only 8m along a distance of 220m, or a gradient of only 0.036.

Geologically, the site divides fairly straightforwardly along a line running east west roughly halfway along its length. To the north of this line, it is underlain by solid geology consisting of deposits of the Mercia Mudstone group, consisting of calcareous marls, siltstones and mudstones, which is both extremely widespread and highly variable in its physical nature. These strata were laid down throughout virtually the whole of the Triassic period, between about 250 to 200 million years ago; and they are known to extend to enormous thicknesses, having been recorded in places at over 1,350m. The southern half of the site, by contrast, is defined by its relationship with the little Halse Brook which marks its southern boundary; for here, the depositional regime of the watercourse, running in its little flood plain and regularly overtopping its banks, has led to the laying down of a linear alluvial drift deposit, lying on top of the Mercia Mudstone. The nature, extent and depth of this material is entirely unknown, but in this southern half of the site, it might not be considered to provide a suitable level of structural strength to support building foundations. This might well need to be tested by exploratory geotechnical work. As a general rule, the BGS notes that such deposits, usually of Quaternary date, consist of

¹www.copac.ac.uk; www.biab.ac.uk; <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>;
www.scholar.google.com



soft to firm consolidated, compressible silty clay, but can contain layers of silt, sand, peat and basal gravel. A stronger, desiccated surface zone may be present (BGS)².

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There is not at present, and will not be for the foreseeable future, any volume of the *Victoria County History* for Somerset which covers the hundred (Kingsbury West) of which Bishop's Lydeard was a member, apart of course from the very earliest published volumes, 1 (1906) and 2 (1911), which cover general themes, and in which the parish and its parent hundred, surface intermittently. There are 'antiquarian' works, of which Collinson 1791 is only the most prominent, which deal with Lydeard in varying degrees of obliqueness. Not surprisingly, the parish also surfaces intermittently in the pages of the *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society*. But there is at present a lack of a fully referenced, measured, detailed, *critical* review of the historical, topographical and archaeological evidence of this corner of Somerset. The following brief account has, therefore, been put together from what secondary sources could be marshalled for the purpose, and which had claim to a good degree of authority.

Historically, Cotford has always lain within the ancient ecclesiastical parish of Bishop's Lydeard, towards its southern boundary with the parish of Heathfield, the boundary here, as already noted, lying along the course of the little Halse Water brook, which flows from west to east. Historically, Cotford seems to have consisted of Cotford Farm, on the western side of the road leading south from Lydeard, and Little Cotford, on the eastern side of the road. Cotford Farm was always the more important of the two, and Little Cotford, recorded as having its own small estate in the 1840s, had vanished by the time of the First Edition OS maps in the early 1880s.

Both Lydeard and indeed Cotford itself emerge into the historical record well before the time of Domesday Book in 1086. This is because early in the reign of Edward the Elder, the king made a gift of an estate at Lydeard to Asser, then Bishop of Sherborne, along with two others, at West Buckland and Wellington. The exact date is unknown, but it is usually attributed to the decade 899-909. The charter by which these lands were conveyed is no. 380 in Sawyer's standard catalogue, and it records the extent of the Lydeard estate as 12 hides (Sawyer 1968). The See of Wells was created in 909, and as part of its foundation endowment, the Lydeard estate, and indeed numerous other lands

²The geological underpinning of the site is ignored in the initial site assessment report (PBA 2015), but it is potentially of considerable importance.



formerly belonging to the church of Sherborne, were transferred to it. This must have happened at a time very shortly after the date of the original grant to Sherborne. For a whole variety of reasons, the veracity of Anglo-Saxon charters cannot always be relied upon. However, the editor of the most up to date and authoritative edition of the Bath and Wells charters, has remarked that

A reasonably good case can be made that [S380] is an essentially authentic diploma of c.900, although the two boundary clauses associated with it may not be contemporary (Kelly 2007, 175)³.

For present purposes, the most important point about this record is that, as noted here by Kelly, it contains detailed boundary clauses, in Old English, for the estates which it conveys. The short account given here is based very largely on Dr Kelly's survey (Kelly 2007, 198-206). Leaving aside the possibility that the bound is not contemporary with the charter to which it is attached, it is still, nonetheless, almost certainly pre-Conquest in date. And it seems to be the case that, for most of its circuit, the Anglo-Saxon bound follows the line which later emerged as the boundary of the ecclesiastical parish. The detail of the bound, so far as it has been determined, has been outlined by Kelly, and need not be rehearsed here. But the main point here is that Cotford is explicitly mentioned as a marker point, occurring, in fact, early on in the charter, which follows the standard practice of going round the estate boundary in a clockwise direction. The charter gives two different spellings separated by a single short word – *Costanforda* and *Cottanforda*, and it is likely that the latter is to be preferred. Kelly adduces a meaning of 'the ford associated with a man called Cotta'. This strongly suggests that the eponymous Cotta, to have bestowed his name to a topographical feature however modest, is likely to have dwelt at or very close to the ford, and although there is of course no detail of the exact position of this putative occupation site, it seems reasonable to suggest that it was perpetuated by the later site of Cotford Farm. Later on, Cotford became a small estate in its own right, and it is possible that even at the time of the charter bound, this was the case. Michael Costen has suggested that such place-names can be related to those tenants of lowly status which emerge in the pages of Domesday Book (1086), as 'cottars', sometimes referred to as an equivalent class, the 'bordars' in the Somerset Domesday (Thorn 1980; Costen 2011), and it may therefore be

³The Lydeard charter bounds, along with many of the other boundary clauses contained in Anglo-Saxon charters relating to Somerset, were first examined on a systematic basis by Grundy (1935). However, Grundy's work, while painstaking and pioneering for its day, has not always stood the test of time, and the publication of Kelly 2007 has now provided a modern, authoritative and meticulous critical edition of the Bath and Wells charters, which crucially includes a reassessment of the boundary clauses. In fact with the publication of the same author's edition of the very large collection of material from the Glastonbury archive, the overwhelming majority of the known Somerset charters have now been published to modern critical standards (Kelly 2012).



that one or more of the total of 12 bordars which were recorded in 1086, actually lived at Cotford.

The estate at Lydeard reappears again in the pages of Domesday Book as a possession of the Church of Wells, nearly two centuries after the granting of the Anglo-Saxon charter S380, that church having inherited it, as already noted, from the See of Sherborne⁴. By the late 11th century, the estate was assessed at only 10 hides, and not the 12 of the original grant; and it is possible that two hides had been seized by a neighbouring landowner and incorporated into his manor of Ash Priors, part of the eastern boundary of which marches with the western boundary of Lydeard (Thorn 1980). Of Cotford itself, however, there is no record at this time; and indeed, so far as we can see, it does not re-emerge again into the light of the documentary record until the early 18th century. This is of course absolutely *not* to suggest that the site of Cotford Farm was not occupied between the early 10th century and the early 18th; but just that the specifically *documentary* record fails to identify it in the course of those eight centuries. There may have been any number of reasons for this, but it is important to stress that an *apparent* absence from the documentary sources should *not* be taken as evidence of non-existence 'on the ground'⁵.

Among the archive at the SRO, is a small series of 18th century leases and contracts relating to Cotford; although the first mention of what is almost certainly Cotford Farm is not direct – rather, it records a man called Thomas Bond, described as being 'of Cotford', as a signatory to a lease dated 1724; and there can be little doubt that this phraseology is intended to convey his actual place of residence, almost certainly Cotford Farm (SRO DD\2/2/10/24). The first *direct* reference to Cotford Farm appearing in documents held at the SRO, comes in a lease of 1739 (DDL\2/2/7/3). This also mentions Thomas Bond, and there can be little doubt that this is the same man mentioned 15 years earlier, notwithstanding the fact that the later document describes him as being 'of Bishop's Lydeard'. Other leases relating to Cotford Farm run intermittently up to 1783, but oddly, there is then no documentation for it in the SRO throughout the

⁴Sherborne continued as a diocese, much reduced, even after the creation of the See of Wells, but after the Norman Conquest it was eventually disbanded and its remaining jurisdiction subsumed within the See of Salisbury, created in the mid-1070s.

⁵A systematic search was made of the indices of the Somerset Record Office, of the National Archives at Kew, and of the volumes of the Somerset Record Society. In addition, a small corpus of surnames recorded at Lydeard in the early 14th century, being the names of taxpayers recorded by a Lay Subsidy levied at that time and published by the SRS (Dickinson 1890), was examined, as were the two published volumes of calendars of Dean and Chapter records at Wells (Bird 1907). None of this material threw up any mention of Cotford whatsoever, whether as a place in its own right, or at the very least as a locative surname. It is always possible that a far more detailed and meticulous study, perhaps particularly of the medieval archive of the See of Wells, might return references to Cotford in that period; however, such work would be beyond the scope of the present report.



greater part of the 19th century. This may just suggest that the farm and its lands underwent a period of stability in that time, and did not change hands at all, or undergo any changes that might have required supporting documentation. It is also possible, however, that such records *were* generated, but either do not survive, or did not find their way into the SRO. It is known that Cotford Farm possessed a water wheel, but apart from a brief note in the Somerset HER, very little is known about it (HER PRN 43015). The HER suggests that its leat was taken off from the Halse Water at a point about 1km to the NW of the former site of Cotford Farm, but it gives no reason for this statement. Unfortunately, the buildings belonging to the farm were not individually identified at the time of the tithe survey just before the middle of the 19th century, so that the location of the mill within the farm complex is uncertain. However, the First Edition OS maps show what appears to be a leat coming into the north-western end of the farm complex, terminating in what may be a small mill pond, and entering the western side of a building which may be the mill. A long channel is also seen leaving the farm site, running south-south-west to rejoin the Halse Water south of the farm. If this is the tailrace of the leat, which it may well be, it is clearly culverted under the farm site, and for a short distance beyond it (**Figure 5**). This watercourse is not shown on the tithe map, which is dated 1838 (**Figure 4**), so it may be that the mill was established at some time between its date, and the publication of the First Edition OS⁶. It is interesting to note that the western boundary of the present site follows pretty exactly, so far as it is possible to determine, the line of the former, putative, mill tailrace south of the site of Cotford Farm.

In 1905, legal advice was given on water rights relating to the mill at Cotford Farm, based on earlier statements of 1890. The document remarks that

After the County Council purchased Cotford Farm for the purpose of erecting a Lunatic Asylum, the use of the water wheel there was partially discontinued, but water by means of a ram was pumped from the stream for the purposes of the Asylum, and a well was also sunk (SRO D/H/tv/5/3/5).

⁶Although we should exercise some caution here because it is equally possible that this may be merely a vagary of the mapping. While the OS definitely shows what may be the mill tailrace, it is possible that its absence from the tithe map does not reflect its actual non-existence on the ground at that date; by and large the remit of the tithe survey was merely to record property boundaries, and not necessarily to dwell on what might have been regarded as extraneous topographical detail that was strictly irrelevant for the immediate purposes of the survey. About 450m to the west of the study site, both the tithe map and the early editions of the OS depict a large, rectangular pool about halfway between Cotford Farm and the point at which the HER suggests that the leat for the farm mill was led off the Halse Water. The site is now built over, and the existence of the pool itself is not known to the HER. This may well be a pond for Cotford mill, although if so its distance from the actual mill site is unusual. Its presence may indicate that the flow from the leat was not in itself sufficient, and needed to be augmented. As already noted, there is a much smaller pond at the mill itself, at the eastern end of the leat.

At the time of the tithe survey, the lands belonging to Cotford Farm ran to a total of just over 109 acres (44ha), and almost the entire area of the site which is the subject of the present report, fell within the boundary of a single field which was used as meadow land, which given its location extending northwards from the north bank of the Halse Water, is perhaps no surprise (SRO D/D/Rt/26, map and apportionment).

The site of Cotford Farm was purchased in or around 1890, by the Commissioners whose task it was to establish the proposed new mental hospital (SRO D\H\tv/3/1/1), the main site of which was established a short distance to the north of that of the Farm. The history and nature of the hospital itself has been dealt with at detailed length elsewhere, and so need not be rehearsed again here (cf Taylor 1991; Hinton and Clarke 1997). Although latterly known as Tone Vale Hospital, it was originally established as the Somerset and Bath Mental Hospital, and its first annual report was issued in 1897, the same year that it opened (D\H\tv/2/1). Cotford Farm itself appears for the last time on a map just after the mid-1880s, when it is depicted on the OS First Edition maps, 6" and 25" scale (**Figure 5**). It had been removed by the time of the Second Edition maps, some twenty or so years later, the hospital, as already noted, having been established in the interim. There does appear to be any indication of its site even on modern high resolution Lidar imagery (**Figure 8**).

The intrusion of such a large complex as the hospital into a completely rural landscape inevitably had its effects on the local communications pattern, most notably immediately to its south. The road running south-east/north-west, and onto the southern side of which Cotford Farm originally fronted, was abandoned, and its junction with the main north-south road to Bishop's Lydeard was shifted slightly to the south. It was replaced by a new road running north-north-west/south-south-east from the newly positioned junction, and forming the main entrance into the new site. The entrance lodge to the new site was placed on the northern side of the new road, in the small triangular plot formed in the angle of the junction between the new road and the existing north-south road to Lydeard. All of this means that the site of Cotford Farm itself, although truncated by the new road, is also partially preserved in the undeveloped amenity land immediately to the south of the new road.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The strict remit of this study is to consider the evidence for archaeological survival in the vicinity of the study site, based on current knowledge as expressed in the online Somerset County Council Historic Environment Record, supplemented by other information where this is considered relevant. It should also be reiterated again that there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments either on the site itself or in the immediate vicinity, and the nearest listed building is over 350m away. Only those records within a radius of 500m of the site centre have been considered here (**Figure 3**). Many of the records in the vicinity of the study site are related to some degree or another to the Tone Vale Hospital Complex, or are unrelated standing buildings, or sites that have since been developed and built upon, none of which can reasonably be said to have implications for the purposes of this report. Under that heading, therefore, would come HER PRNs 44565, which is the general record for the overall site of the hospital, covering a very large area, especially to the north of the hospital site; 22850, to the west of the study site, and marking the former location of Nissen huts which are considered to represent 'overflow' capacity for the hospital during WW2; 43881, formerly a cemetery for the hospital marked on early editions of the OS, but now an open pasture field; 43882, the Lodge for the hospital, already noted, and very close to the site's north-eastern boundary⁷; 17460, the Grade II listed chapel on the hospital site; 13910, a further group of temporary WW2 Nissen huts recovered on post war aerial photography, the site now being developed; 19826, Asylum Farm, the existence of which can presumably be related directly to the hospital, but the site of which is now developed; 44252, the site of Venn House, a high status occupation site dating back at least to the early 15th century but probably of much earlier foundation, now gone and the site built over. The Venn site was also the subject of an evaluation and excavation in 1997 (44661 and 44662 respectively), prior to development, neither which exercise threw up anything of any great archaeological significance. HER PRN 43405 represents the site of a mill, with leat infilled, and about which very little appears to be known from the historical record - the site itself is currently not developed; and finally here, HER PRN 15894, a *supposed* leat, taken off the southern side of the Halse Water to the south-east of the study site, but, as the HER itself notes, with no apparent destination. All of these records do not appear to have any direct implications for the site which is the subject of this report.

The site of Cotford Farm itself is dealt with by HER PRN 43015. It is noted only very briefly there, and there is no description of the physical nature of the

⁷It is something of a surprise that The Lodge is not protected by separate, formal listing in its own right.

farmhouse itself or of its possible date. It seems, indeed, as though very little is actually known about the site at all. It is also somewhat surprising that the HER makes no mention whatsoever of the site of Little Cotford, which appears on the tithe map, but had gone some forty years later by the time of the large scale First Edition OS. Its site is at OS NGR ST 17268 27064, and at the time of writing it remains undeveloped. It does not appear to show up on modern lidar imagery (**Figure 8**) or historic aerial photography (**Figure 9**). Again, the site is enigmatic.

Aside from these records, there are really only two others which might be considered of interest in the present context. The first is HER PRN 15327. This is a report on an archaeological evaluation and watching brief at the site of the little bridge which carries the north-south road from Lydeard over the Halse Water, and which lies just outside the extreme south-eastern corner of the site (**Figure 3**; Chadwick 2001). The Cotford Bridge element of the work, which was a watching brief, was undertaken during works to strengthen the bridge, and it revealed the existence of a cobbled surface which, although undated, was interpreted as part of the surface of the ford across the Halse Water which (presumably) predated the establishment of the bridge, and which, indeed, gave the place its name⁸. This is relevant because, as already noted, it is only just outside the boundary of the study site.

From the HER itself, there is, finally, a further record which seems worth mentioning here because of the archaeological potential that it presents and the possible implications for the present site. HER PRN 15326 is a record of an evaluation in advance of road widening at Dene Cross, about 1.4km to the north of the study site's northern boundary (**Figure 1**). The site was targetted in part because of an extensive complex of cropmarks which had been identified from historic aerial photographs. The evaluation revealed a series of ditches deemed to be different side of the same large enclosure, with finds indicating a date spanning the late Iron Age/Romano-British periods. Aerial photographic evidence, as already noted, appears to indicate that this was merely one element of a far more extensive complex, probably a late prehistoric and Romano-British field system, and a series of associated enclosures, but which also may include, on the eastern side of Dene Road, a possible Romano-Celtic shrine enclosure (Chadwick 2001, 8, para. 7.2.9). Some examination of the time depth of the site was possible, and it seemed clear that not all the features were contemporary, and indeed some dumping and infilling of existing features could be identified.

⁸The explanation of the place-name as given by the HER is incomplete and therefore somewhat misleading.

It is, at least, evident that this landscape was being farmed, possibly quite intensively, by the late prehistoric period, and into the Romano-British. And in such cases one is justified in looking for evidence of an 'estate centre', possibly in the form of a relatively high status building such as a villa. It is possible that there is just such evidence not very far from the study area, indeed, exactly opposite the site, on the eastern side of the north-south section of Dene Road. The tithe map here shows a field numbered 366, which it names as 'Floors', the potential significance of which has not yet been identified by the HER (**Figures 3 and 4**). The name also occurs some 70 years earlier, with the same spelling ('the Floors field'), in a survey attached to a lease of specified parts of Cotford and Venn farm, dating to 1769 (**Cover**; SRO DD/L/2/3/12/10). Unfortunately it was not possible to identify any forms of the name earlier than these 18th and 19th century examples. Nonetheless, this is potentially a highly indicative name archaeologically. It is possible that it is derived from the Old English word *flōre*, which elsewhere has been identified as a likely reference to a tessellated pavement of Romano-British date. There is a small group of toponyms in which this word may be combined with either *flage*, 'a flag stone', or *fāgen*, 'variegated'. Margaret Gelling has noted that

Since only two instances of *fāgen flōre* and three of the compound of *flage* with *flōre* have so far been noted, it appears that both compounds refer to something noteworthy, and both could denote the floors of Roman buildings which, whether paved or tessellated, would be more elaborate than those of Anglo-Saxon buildings (Gelling 1997, 154).

Indeed Gelling further explicitly remarks that

It has been suggested that *flōre* used by itself may as a place-name may refer to a pavement in a Roman villa.....[and] it is [therefore] possible that a field-name or minor name Floor(s) is of special archaeological interest (*ibid*).

It is this latter point which is so striking in this case, for it precisely describes the situation with tithe field 366, and the lack of a spelling earlier than the mid-19th century should not prevent us from highlighting this as a site of great potential significance. It is now partially developed, most of its northern side being occupied by Dene Barton Community Hospital, itself partially occupying the footprint of the former Asylum Farm; and to the south, a small terrace of inter-war houses called South Villas. Nonetheless, to the east of the hospital, and to the south of South Villas, some open ground yet survives that might lend itself to geophysical survey in the case of any future planning applications relating to what remains of the former Floors field.

6 HISTORIC MAP EVIDENCE

While the catalogue at the SRO lists a number of maps covering Bishop's Lydeard, they all relate only to small estates and lands scattered through various locations within the parish, and none includes Cotford Farm, its lands, and the surrounding area. So far as we know, therefore, the first map to cover the entire parish, and to include Cotford, is the tithe map, dated 1838, and its accompanying award, of 1837 (SRO D/D/Rt/26) (**Figure 4**)⁹. **Table 1** provides details of landholders, occupiers, land use, and field names for both the study site itself, and for a selection of field plots immediately around it, and is drawn from the information provided in the award. The map depicts the site of Cotford Farm, with the farmhouse itself shown in a pink wash, and its ancillary buildings shaded. As already noted, if any of these is to be identified as the mill building, it is most likely, as already suggested, to be the rectangular building immediately to the west of the farmhouse. Immediately to the south, the proposed development site was then entirely encompassed within tithe field 363, which at that time was entirely given over to meadow. Field 366, opposite the farm on the eastern side of the north-south road to Lydeard, is Floors field, with its potential to be the site of an as yet unrecorded high status building of Romano-British date. Little Cotford, immediately to the south of Floors, makes its first and, so far as we know, only appearance on a map, as tithe plot 620, with access to it given by a funnel-shaped drove running off the eastern side of the Lydeard road. Essentially nothing seems to be known about Little Cotford, its date of foundation or the possible date of the buildings on the site, although at the time of the tithe survey it certainly had its own small estate. It cannot, however, have been being worked as a farm in its own right, because as the tithe map clearly shows, by this date at least, there were only barns and outbuildings on the site, and no farmhouse. That is of course absolutely not to say that there was not one in earlier times. But if so, by the mid-19th century, it had gone, and the lands attached to Little Cotford were being farmed from elsewhere. Today, the field pattern in the area around Little Cotford has changed almost beyond recognition, mainly by the removal of boundaries. Interestingly, the site of the buildings themselves remains undeveloped and available for investigation, although even high resolution lidar does not appear to show any obvious traces of the former buildings on the site (**Figure 8**).

⁹Interestingly, a note on the Lydeard tithe map remarks that it was "taken from old surveys". We are presumably to understand from this either that no new survey explicitly for tithe purposes was conducted at all, or that if it was, it was merely a limited exercise in updating and revising, where necessary, existing maps.

Table 1: Extract from Bishop's Lydeard Tithe Award, 1837 (SRO D/D/Rt/A/26)

A – acres; R – Roods; P - perches¹⁰

Landowner	Occupier	No.	Name & Description	Land Use	A	R	P
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	360	Five Acre Mead	Meadow	5	0	35
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	361	Great Orchard	Orchard	4	1	30
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	362	Four Acre Mead	Meadow	4	0	23
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	363	Cotford Mead	Meadow	3	0	19
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	364	Cotford Farm, House, Gardens and Barton	Garden etc			
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	365					
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	366	Floors	Arable	7	1	33
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	367	Cotford Six Acres & Coppice	Arable & Coppice	5	2	8
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	368					
Elizabeth Metford Charter	James Pearse	614	Kingston close	Arable	6	1	3
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	619	Great Orchard	Orchard	3	0	38
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	620	Barn, Barton & Road	Waste	0	2	33
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	621	More Barton Orchard	Orchard	1	0	26
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	622	Bridge Mead Orchard	Orchard	0	2	12
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	623	Nursery		0	0	24
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	624	Bridge Mead	Meadow			
John Peter Perring	Charles Gibbs	624a	A Part of Bridge Mead	Meadow	0	0	20
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	625	Sparrow Moor	Pasture	1	3	15
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	626	Sparrow Mead	Meadow	1	2	39
Charles Winter	Henry Woodberry	627	Cotford Five Acre Mead	Meadow	4	2	11

The First Edition of the OS 6" map was, very unusually, surveyed and published in the same year, 1887. It is presented here as **Figure 5** (Somerset Sheet 70 NW). This, and its contemporary counterpart, the 25" map (Somerset Sheet 70.5) is the last map to depict Cotford Farm in existence since, as we have already noted, the estate was sold in or around 1890. The main changes

¹⁰There were traditionally 4 roods to the acre, and 40 perches to the rood. An acre is the equivalent of 0.405ha (or just over 4,000m²), and this therefore makes a rood about 1012m², and a perch just over 25m². At the time of the tithe survey, Bishop's Lydeard parish extended to some 4430 tithable acres (1793ha), of which 2451 acres (992ha) were arable, 948 acres (384ha) were pasture, and 753 acres (305ha) were meadow. The remainder consisted of orchards, coppice and plantations. The rural economy at Lydeard at this date was therefore weighted towards arable, to the tune of some 55% of the farmed land. It is likely that Floors field was old arable land of long standing and that it was in the course of ploughing that the feature, whatever it was, that ultimately gave the field its name, was discovered.



appear to be that Little Cotford had by this time completely vanished, to the extent that without the testimony of the tithe map, its existence might not even be suspected from the OS alone. Again as already noted, the field boundary pattern in this area has also been heavily modified, with the removal of many hedgelines and consolidation into larger fields – although the 'Floors' field survives from the time of the tithe survey. The funnel-shaped access route to the site of Little Cotford has been another casualty of these changes.

To the south of the farm, what appears to be a dead straight watercourse heads south-south-west to a confluence with the Halse Water, at exactly the same point as shown on the tithe map. Presuming that the mill was actually in existence at the earlier date, it must have had a tailrace, but on the tithe map there is only an odd, dog-legged boundary between fields 362 and 363, which would not provide the most efficient flow of water, but there may be other reasons for that layout, now unrecoverable. The OS shows that between the two maps, a tailrace that was either completely new or heavily modified had been established, with a far more efficient dead straight run to the stream.

The publication of the OS Second Edition map (in 1905), marks an almost complete departure from the entirely rural landscape that had gone before, and the imposition of the hospital complex, its ancillary services such as roads and outbuildings, and notably, its landscaped grounds and gardens to its south, east and west, has caused massive disruption to the existing pattern which will be self-evident from the map itself (**Figure 6**). Cotford Farm itself has of course gone, but at least a part of its site remained undisturbed as indeed it does to this day, albeit truncated by the new access road running north-westwards from the western side of the road to Lydeard. In fact the outline of the greater part of the original farmyard enclosure can still be clearly discerned, with the new access road running diagonally through its northern half, south-east/north-west, and with its western side formed by the putative tailrace from the former Cotford Farm mill. What seems clearly to be a new building has appeared on its former site, south of the new road, and with its orientation paying scant regard to the surviving antecedent boundaries. If we had to rely on historic aerial photography alone, the nature of this building might have been somewhat problematic (**Figure 9**); luckily however, historic large-scale mapping makes it clear that it was in fact a glasshouse. Like most of the other buildings in the immediate area, this is likely to have been established as an integral element of the hospital development, perhaps with a view to providing the inmates with fresh fruit and vegetables throughout the year, even in the winter – as such it may well have been worked as a direct adjunct to Asylum Farm, with the dual intention of acting as a form of 'therapy' for patients.

The structure persisted on this site until at least 1969, but had gone 20 years later (Old Maps); its site lies firmly within the boundary of the proposed development.

On the eastern side of that latter road, Asylum Farm is new, constructed in the western part of the old 'Floors' field, and to its south, although unidentified, lies a new a group of buildings which remain today and are known as South Villas. The reservoir, pump house, and the two gate lodges to the site, are all new, as are the Isolation Hospital to the north, the chapel to the north-west, and the sewage works to the south-west; *all* of these elements owe their existence *solely* to the establishment of the hospital. To the south of the former Cotford Farm site, its mill tailrace (if such it actually was), formerly running south to the Halse Water, has vanished, and does not appear even to betray itself on modern lidar imagery (**Figure 8**).

It was unfortunately not possible to examine a copy of the OS Third Edition map, which would usually have been issued at some point towards the end of the First World War. **Figure 7**, therefore, shows an extract from the 1929 revision of the 6" map, published in 1931. This differs little in terms of its broad picture from its predecessor of some thirty years previously, but there had also been some important developments in the intervening years. It is something of a surprise that the outline of the original southern and western elements of the Cotford farmyard boundary, continue to survive at this date. To the west of the isolation hospital, a cemetery, presumably directly related to the hospital, had been established on what had previously been a field. It was still marked as a burial ground on maps as late as the end of the 1960s, although it is unlikely that it was still actually in use by that time (see further below). It is now surrounded by modern development on all sides except the north but, significantly, remains undeveloped itself. There does not seem to be any easily accessible information about whether burials are still in situ on the site, or whether they have been either partially or completely removed¹¹. The map evidence, therefore, suggests that this cemetery, well outside the hospital grounds, seems to have come into existence at some point between 1902 and 1929. However, the SRO holds burial registers starting in 1898, just a year after the hospital opened (SRO D\H\tv/18/1/2), which indicates that, at least in the very early years of its existence, burials were being made elsewhere, perhaps in or close to the chapel building. The surviving registers may suggest that the last burials in the cemetery were made in 1956 (SRO D\H\tv/18/1/3).

To the south-west, the sewage works has been expanded, and to the north of the water tower on the eastern side of the hospital complex, appear lines of new

¹¹There is no mention of the cemetery site in PBA 2015.

buildings. These are in fact new houses, and they survive today, and are known as West and North Villas. Finally immediately to the south of the hospital buildings, some very minor modification to existing, dead straight field boundaries since the time of the 1902 map, has resulted in the creation of an area marked as a 'Recreation Ground'. The westernmost of the two boundaries demarcating the site now forms the *eastern* boundary of Cotford St Luke Primary School; the eastern boundary has gone, and does not even show up on modern lidar (**Figure 8**) but the area to the east of the primary school is still an open recreational and amenity space. The primary school, like, indeed the majority of the modern housing at Cotford, is of late 1980s/1990s date, and so as far as historic map evidence is concerned, there was very little change between the date of the 1929 map, and the late 1980s/1990s, when the primary school, pretty much all of the present housing, and the Dene Barton Community Hospital were established, the construction of the latter resulting in the final sweeping away of the former Asylum Farm¹². The current road layout at Cotford is overwhelmingly a product of this modern development, and in the areas affected, has almost completely eradicated the antecedent patterns of lanes and field boundaries. By the time of the 1929 OS, the outline of the study site itself was in place, although the *western* part of the east-west boundary which divides the site between north and south, has since been removed¹³, as has the north-south boundary marking the eastern side of the former Recreation Ground; later map evidence indicating that both of these developments took place in the late 1980s or after.

7 HISTORIC AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Appendix 1 lists the historic aerial photographic material that was recovered by a trawl of the records held at the National Monuments Record, Swindon, and of which one has been selected for reproduction here as **Figure 9**, dating to 1947. Selected salient features have been indicated. Of particular interest here, only two years after the end of World War II, are the scattered huts of a military installation a couple of fields to the west of the study site. This is noted by the Somerset HER (PRN 22850 – **Figure 3**), probably with this same photograph, or another one part of the same run, as the source. The HER reasonably speculates that the huts are related to the work of the hospital immediately to the north. The site is now covered by Cotford St Luke Primary School. The original southern and western boundaries of the yard of the long-vanished Cotford Farm, continue to survive at this date. The site itself is divided pretty

¹²The primary school was opened in 2004.

¹³This in fact occurred in modern times, as shown by Google Earth satellite imagery; the western part of this boundary was removed between 2001 and 2006.

much in half, north and south. It looks as though the southern half was in use for pasture or meadow ground, as attested by what are probably animals grazing towards its eastern side, while the northern half was being cropped, possibly for market gardening. Also clear is the 'tank' marked on some later OS maps, and indeed up to the present day. Both of these observations make the very strong point that the woodland and rank scrub which now overwhelmingly characterises the greater part of the site, must clearly be of extremely modern origin, having appeared only since the date of this image.

8 SITE VISIT

Plates 1 to 5 represent part of a photographic record captured by the author during a visit made to the study site on Thursday, 13th October, 2016. We hope that the captions to the plates are pretty self-explanatory, but a few salient points are worth highlighting. The present state of the overwhelming majority of the site is most kindly described as unkempt. To both sides of the main east-west boundary that currently divides the site roughly in half, north and south, the ground is covered in rank, low scrub and nettles, in places very dense. The boundary itself, it is worth reiterating, is only of post-1902-3 date. The north-eastern quadrant of the site supports a small stand of woodland, with trees and bushes of greatly varying ages, but this is not depicted on the First Edition OS; and in fact, historic aerial photographic evidence attests to this vegetation becoming established only after 1947 (**Figure 9**; and see above, **Historic Aerial Photographic Evidence**). It is within this woodland that one finds the 'tanks' marked on the modern OS map (**Figure 2**), and historic map evidence after the late 1920s indicates that they were only installed at some point between then and the early 1960s. They are presumably related to the requirements of the hospital in some way, but exactly what they held when in use is problematic. A small area of open grassy ground makes up the north-western side of the site, and this at present forms a continuous, unbounded stretch of ground with the recreation/amenity space immediately to the west of the site. Far more enigmatic is a rectangular structure built of masonry, now almost completely overgrown and invisible unless one is virtually on top of it, located on the western side of the north-south Lydeard road, and immediately to the north of Cotford Bridge. This feature certainly does not appear on the First and Second editions of the OS, but it is there by 1930¹⁴. It is therefore early 20th century in origin, but its function is at present entirely unknown. Notwithstanding its present somewhat sorry condition, it is still depicted on modern OS mapping

¹⁴It may of course have been in place by the date of the Third Edition map, around the time of the First World War, but as already noted, it was not possible to examine the relevant map(s) for the purposes of this report.

(**Figure 2**). A particular search was made for any trace whatsoever of the putative tailrace of Cotford Mill which is marked on the First Edition OS map; towards its southern end close to its confluence with the Halse Brook, the task was made nigh on impossible by thick undergrowth, and in the most open ground further to the north, within the amenity/recreation space, there was no obvious sign of it. Neither, as already noted, does it seem to show up on modern lidar imagery (**Figure 8**).

9 PLANNING POLICIES

Planning policies both national and local related explicitly to matters of the historic environment, including archaeology, and which have direct implications for the site under consideration here, cascade down in the following order of primacy:

- National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012, Dept of Communities and Local Government. See especially Section 12, Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment, 30-32.
- Taunton Deane Core Strategy, adopted September 2012. Core Strategy Policy CP8 deals with the environment in general, but has very little explicitly to say about archaeological sites. The historic environment is included in the overall policy, thus:

The Borough Council will conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment, and will not permit development proposals that would harm these interests or the settings of the towns and rural centres unless other material factors are sufficient to override their importance.....Development outside of settlement boundaries will be permitted where it will: (d) protect, conserve or enhance the interests of natural and historic assets

10 SUMMARY

This report has found that the proposed development site seems to have been open and undeveloped farmland for the overwhelmingly greater part of its existence – and indeed remained so until after the establishment of the major hospital complex, lying to its north, at the end of the 19th century. Prior to this date, the lands belonged to Cotford Farm, the date of the establishment of which is unknown. However, Cotford appears as a point in an Anglo-Saxon charter bound of the early 10th century, and since the first element is a personal name, it is perfectly possible that there was an occupation site somewhere in the vicinity at or before that date – if so, it may be at Cotford Farm. Cotford seems then to disappear from the available historical records until the early 18th century, but it is likely to have had its own mill at least by the mid-19th century,

and what may be its tailrace is shown on an early OS map. Although now no trace of this feature appears to survive, having probably been backfilled, it is possible that it may be detectable archaeologically. Cotford Farm was entirely swept away for an access road into the new hospital, but crucially part of its site may well remain intact at the extreme northern end of the proposed development site. Although outside the development area, on the eastern side of the Lydeard road, Little Cotford, marked only by barns and outbuildings by the mid-19th century and gone completely by the time of the earliest OS maps, may have represented another former occupation site. Immediately to the north of Little Cotford, a potentially indicative field name, although attested only from the second half of the 18th century, may perhaps betray the site of a high-status building of Romano-British date, very close to the site.

In summary, we consider it very likely that when the available evidence, whether archaeological, historical, topographical, or toponymic, is taken together as a coherent body of data, it is likely to form a material consideration in the local authority's deliberations relating to the archaeological implications of the proposed development.



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APPENDIX 1

HISTORIC ENGLAND Air Photographs

Customer oblique listing - Obliques, Standard Order

Customer enquiry reference number: 102736

Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Film and frame number	Original number	Date	Film type		Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)	What can you order?			
							Photocopy	Laser copy	Photographic copy	Digital copy
ST 1627 / 3	NMR 4879 / 25		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 4	NMR 4879 / 26		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 168272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 5	NMR 4879 / 27		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 169271	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 6	NMR 4879 / 28		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 7	NMR 4879 / 29		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 8	NMR 4879 / 30		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 167273	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 9	NMR 4879 / 31		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 168272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 10	NMR 4879 / 32		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 168271	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 11	NMR 4879 / 33		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 168272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 12	NMR 4879 / 34		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 168271	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 13	NMR 4879 / 35		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 169271	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 14	NMR 4821 / 41		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 15	NMR 4821 / 42		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 16	NMR 4821 / 43		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 17	NMR 4821 / 44		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169273	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 18	NMR 4821 / 45		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 168273	Y	Y	Y	U



HISTORIC ENGLAND Air Photographs

Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Film and frame number	Original number	Date	Film type		Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)	What can you order?			
							Photocopy	Laser copy	Photographic copy	Digital copy
ST 1627 / 19	NMR 4821 / 46		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 20	NMR 4821 / 47		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 168274	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 21	NMR 4821 / 48		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 22	NMR 4821 / 49		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 23	NMR 4821 / 50		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169271	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 24	NMR 4821 / 51		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1627 / 25	NMR 4821 / 52		21 JUN 1993	Black & white	70mm,120,220	ST 169272	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 1727 / 1	NMR 4879 / 36		21 JUN 1993	Colour slide	35 mm	ST 170272	Y	Y	Y	U

Total 24 records



HISTORIC ENGLAND
Air Photographs

Full single listing - Verticals, Standard order

Customer enquiry reference: 102736

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
RAF/CPE/UK/1974	583	FP	1068	P	ST 173 269	2	11 APR 1947	A	9960	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/1974	583	FP	1069	P	ST 167 273	2	11 APR 1947	A	9960	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/3904	1991	F44	197	P	ST 174 280	25	02 NOV 1960	AC	9961	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/58/3904	1991	F44	198	P	ST 166 279	25	02 NOV 1960	AC	9961	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/543/2821	8138	F66	315	P	ST 169 272	24	27 APR 1964	A	10000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/543/2821	8138	F66	316	P	ST 174 273	24	27 APR 1964	A	10000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
OS/78010	12286	V	14	P	ST 175 270	1	07 APR 1978	A	10200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/78010	12286	V	15	P	ST 166 268	1	07 APR 1978	A	10200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/98443	15523	V	784	P	ST 176 269	3	16 NOV 1998	A	8800	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/98443	15523	V	785	P	ST 168 269	3	16 NOV 1998	A	8800	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01056	15764	V	9	P	ST 178 271	1	08 MAY 2001	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01056	15764	V	10	P	ST 171 271	1	08 MAY 2001	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01056	15764	V	11	P	ST 164 271	1	08 MAY 2001	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/98034	22558	V	6	N	ST 168 276	1	23 MAR 1998	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/98034	22558	V	7	N	ST 168 269	1	23 MAR 1998	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/98034	22558	V	8	N	ST 169 262	1	23 MAR 1998	A	7700	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/99041	22901	V	17	N	ST 168 274	2	17 MAR 1999	A	7600	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/99041	22901	V	18	N	ST 168 267	2	17 MAR 1999	A	7600	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR



HISTORIC ENGLAND
Air Photographs

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
OS/00009	23225	V	15	N	ST 169 276	2	12 MAR 2000	A	8300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/00009	23225	V	16	N	ST 168 270	2	12 MAR 2000	A	8300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/00009	23225	V	17	N	ST 166 263	2	12 MAR 2000	A	8300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/00289	23336	V	7	N	ST 169 276	1	23 AUG 2000	A	8200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/00289	23336	V	8	N	ST 167 270	1	23 AUG 2000	A	8200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/00289	23336	V	9	N	ST 166 263	1	23 AUG 2000	A	8200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01172	23596	V	8	N	ST 178 271	1	16 SEP 2001	A	7700	12	Colour 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01172	23596	V	9	N	ST 171 271	1	16 SEP 2001	A	7700	12	Colour 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01172	23596	V	10	N	ST 164 271	1	16 SEP 2001	A	7700	12	Colour 9 x 9	NMR
OS/03159	24139	V	267	N	ST 174 279	7	24 SEP 2003	A	10000	6	Colour 9 x 9	NMR
OS/03159	24139	V	268	N	ST 174 272	7	24 SEP 2003	A	10000	6	Colour 9 x 9	NMR
OS/03159	24139	V	269	N	ST 174 265	7	24 SEP 2003	A	10000	6	Colour 9 x 9	NMR

Total Sorties 12

Total Frames 30



Figures

Figure 3

Map showing the location of items from the Somerset HER discussed in the text. Boundary of study area outlined in red. Scale as indicated. Source:

<http://www.somersetheritage.org.uk/>

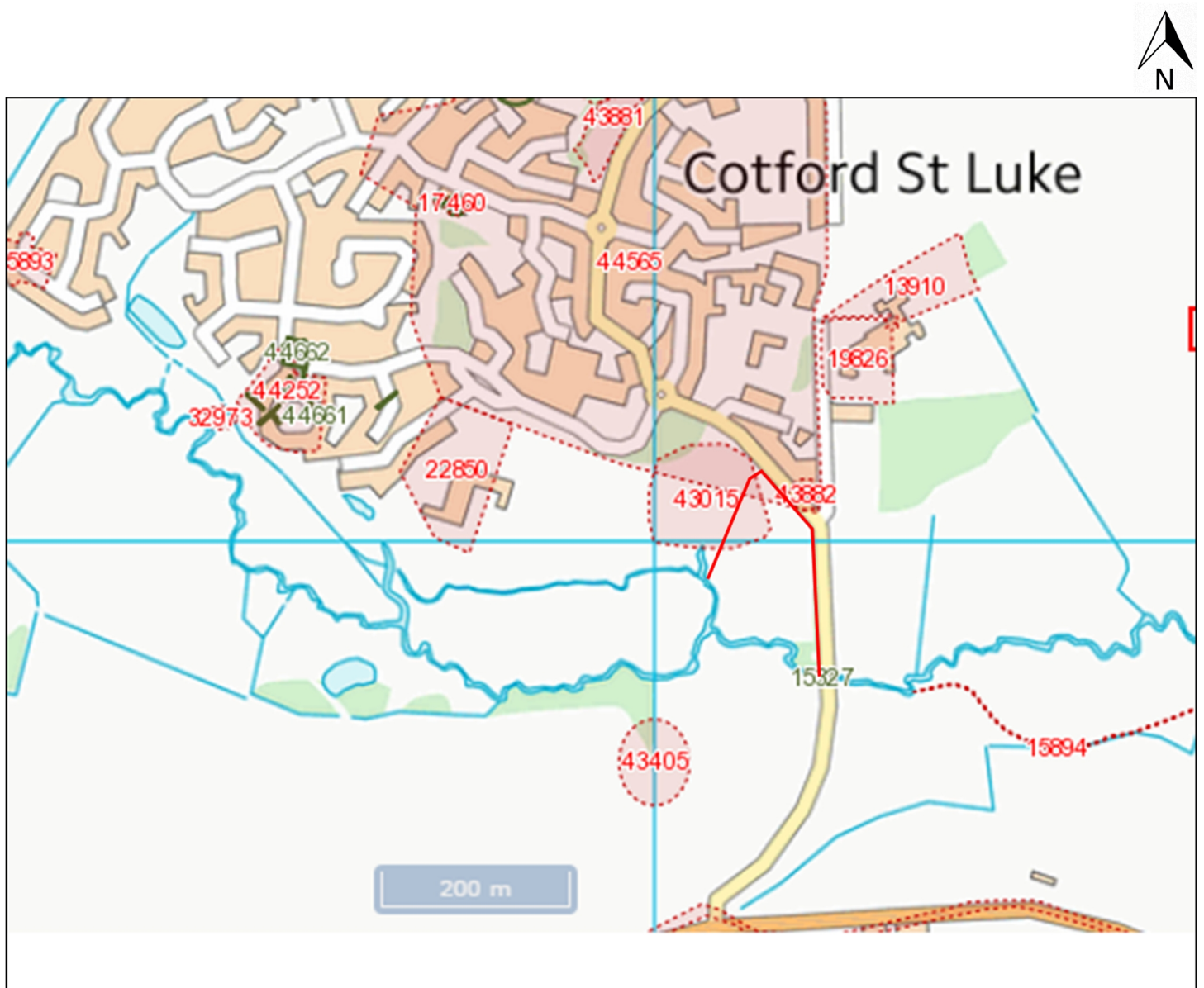


Figure 4

Extract from tithe map of Bishop's Lydeard parish, 1838. SRO DD/Rt/M/26. Approximate boundary of study area outlined in red, best fit to this survey. Selected features noted in text indicated. Not to scale.



Figure 5

Extract from OS First Edition 6" map, Somerset Sheet 70NW. Surveyed and published 1887. Boundary of study area outlined in red. Not to scale. Source: National Library of Scotland



Figure 6

Extract from OS Second Edition 6" map, Somerset Sheet 70NW. Revised 1902-03, published 1905. Boundary of study area outlined in red. Not to scale. Source: National Library of Scotland

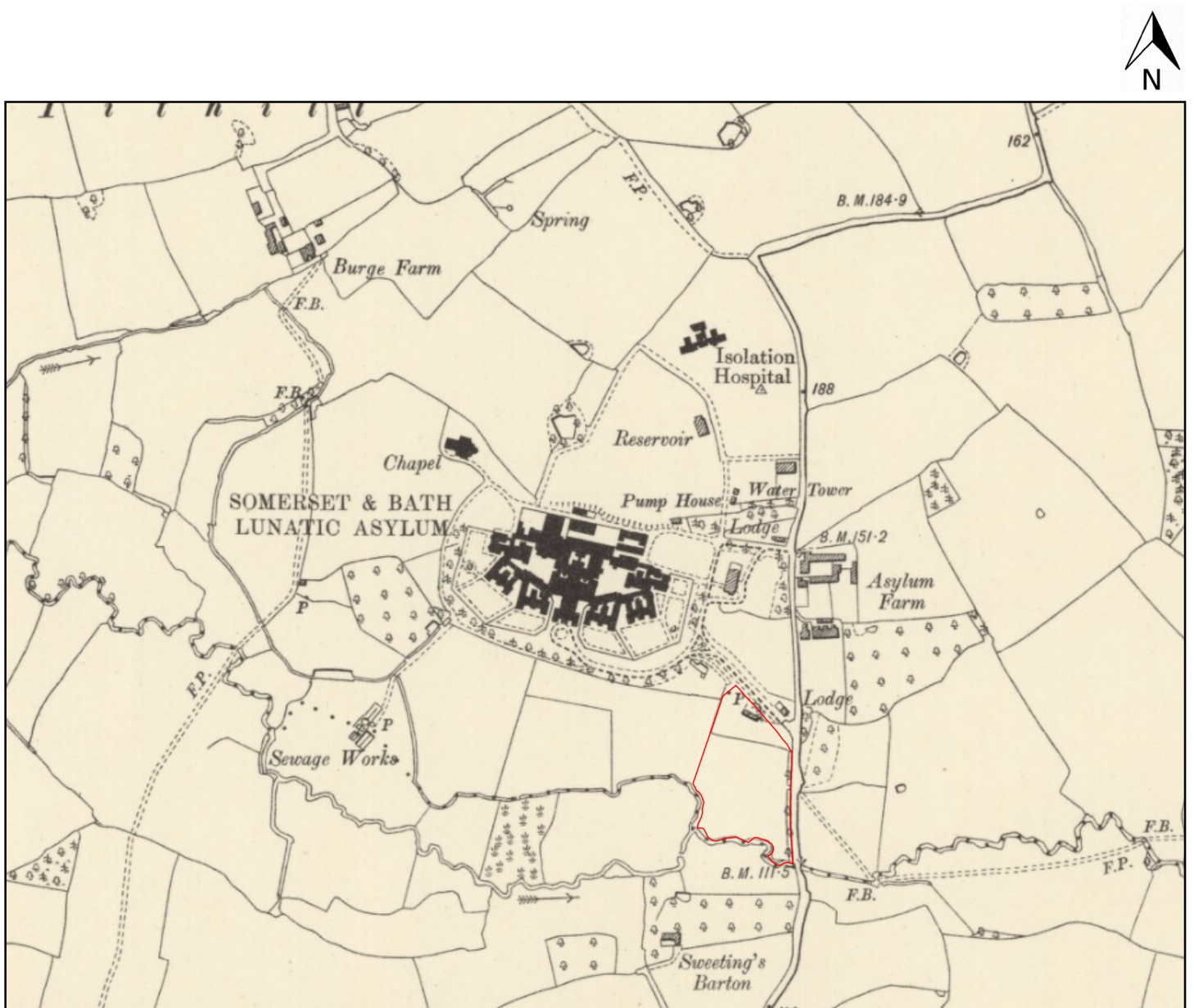


Figure 7

Extract from OS 6" map, Somerset Sheet 70NW. Revised 1929, published 1931. Boundary of study area outlined in red. Not to scale. Source: National Library of Scotland



Figure 8

Lidar imagery of site and surrounding area. Study area outlined in red. Not to scale.
Source: <https://houseprices.io/lab/lidar/map>



Figure 9

Historic aerial photograph, April 1947. NMR RAF/CPE/UK/1974, Frame 1069. Site boundary outlined in red.



Plates



1. Composite panoramic view of the northern part of the site. The view pans round from north-west on the right-hand side of the frame, to south-west on the left. Taken from close to the site's northern boundary, from OS NGR ST 17104 27045. The embanked curvilinear area in the centre of the frame is modern, and related to the use of part of this area as a recreation and amenity space.



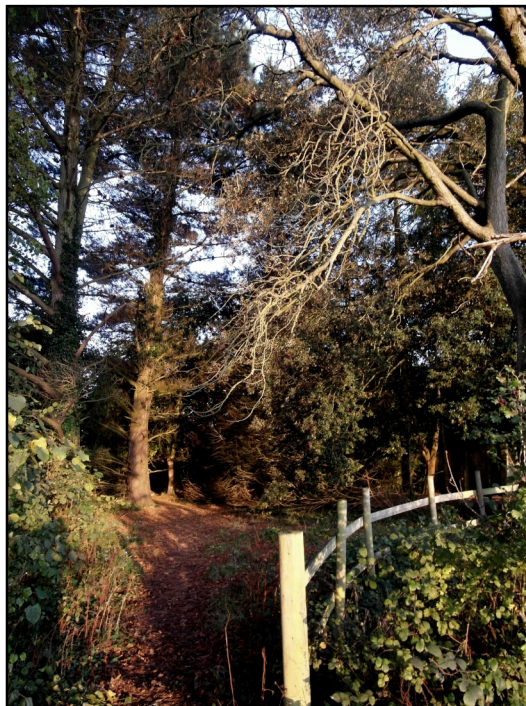
2. The group of structures at the north-eastern side of the site identified as 'tanks' on modern OS mapping. View to north-west.



3. View of the north-west corner of the masonry structure in woodland and undergrowth on the western side of the Lydeard road, and immediately to the north of Cotford Bridge. It is marked on OS maps from the end of the 1920s, but its function when in use is, at present, entirely unknown. It lies within the site boundary, at its extreme south-eastern corner.



4. Composite panorama taken from close to the south-eastern corner of the site, looking across the southernmost of the two enclosures which divide the site into northern and southern halves. Note the heavily overgrown state of this area, although this is slightly variable across it. The view pans round from the west on the left hand side of the frame, to north-east on the right hand side.



5. Mixed woodland within the site boundary, on its eastern side adjacent to the western side of the Lydeard road. This is almost certainly the result of natural self-seeded regeneration, and is unlikely to be earlier than early 20th century in date. View to north-west from beside the road.